

# STEYNING GRAMMAR SCHOOL

## DRUGS EDUCATION & DRUG RELATED INCIDENTS POLICY

ADOPTED BY FULL GOVERNING BODY – 20th April 2016

### 1. RATIONALE/CONTEXT OF THE POLICY:

- Cannabis is by far the most commonly used illegal drug
- 15% of girls and 12% of boys have tried cannabis before
- The current smoking rates (regular and occasional smokers combined) are 12% for boys and 15% for girls
- 2.8% of boys and 4.5% of girls regularly drink alcohol  
( **Source: 'Lifestyles of 14 to 15 year-olds in West Sussex: 2015'**)

#### Local and National Guidance:

This policy has been written partly taking into account guidance from the DfES Drugs: Guidance for Schools DfES 0092/2204 and West Sussex County Council's Children and Young People: Substance Use Strategy 2010-2015  
Note: In West Sussex the following describes the range of services available:

**Universal Services:** those services available to all young people and their families.

**Enhanced Services:** Early intervention services targeted to meet the needs of young people who are likely to be at greater risk of experiencing harm due to their own substance misuse or substance misuse within their family.

**Specialist Services:** services provided to meet the needs of young people with a substance misuse problem that has been identified, and care-planned treatment follows a comprehensive assessment of their needs.

### DRUGS EDUCATION

All students will receive drugs education geared to their age and level of maturity within the context of the school as a caring community and taking into account the school as a part of the wider community. The school provides a comprehensive and planned drugs education curriculum for all pupils, as part of the Personal Social Health and Education (PSHE) programme and in other areas of the curriculum. Support for teaching and understanding drugs related issues is also incorporated in our staff INSET programme using a range of outside agencies. Senior Team member with oversight of the PSHE Coordinator has responsibility for ensuring that there is effective drugs education embodied within the PSHE curriculum.

This aims to provide all pupils with knowledge, attitudes and skills to be able to make informed decisions about drugs, including tobacco and alcohol. The school acknowledges that a positive school ethos helps pupils to feel valued and part of the school community, and in so doing, helps to foster positive self-images which may help pupils to cope better in situations involving drug abuse.

## **2. AIM**

Our overriding aim is to educate pupils by raising their awareness of substance related issues, and of their attitude towards these issues, so empowering them to take responsibility for their own actions and to make healthy, informed choices.

## **3. OBJECTIVES**

- 3.1 To increase understanding about the implications and possible consequences of use and misuse.
- 3.2 To widen understanding about related health and social issues and keeping up to date on drugs issues and legalities (e.g. sex and sexuality, crime, HIV and AIDs)
- 3.3 To seek to minimise the risks that users and potential users face
- 3.4 To enable young people to identify sources of appropriate support
- 3.5 To increase the self confidence of all students to enable them to take responsibility for their own learning and decisions and to recognise and appreciate each others' skills and talents

These objectives will be achieved through tutoring and the work of the Year Teams, in the 6<sup>th</sup> form Student Entitlement Programme, in Personal, Social and Health Education and in subject areas throughout the school.

## DRUG RELATED INCIDENTS

### 4. OUR APPROACH

4.1 The school does not condone the promotion of, the use of, the possession of or the supply of illegal or unauthorised legal substances. The school expressly forbids the possession of these illegal and unauthorised substances on its sites and whilst travelling to and from school. This includes the school buses and any school organised off-site activity and sharing of unauthorised substances with members of our Boarding Community at any time.

Unauthorised legal substances include:

- **Tobacco** (smoking): students are not allowed to smoke on the school site, on their way to or from the school or in the environs of the school during the school day. It is illegal for anyone to smoke on the school site.
- **Electronic Cigarettes** or similar
- **Alcohol**: students are not allowed to consume nor bring alcohol on to the site at any time. Adult groups hiring the premises for functions may apply for a licence to sell alcohol. Consequences will be borne by the hirer.
- **Solvents/Aerosols**: For health and safety reasons we forbid students to bring Tippex, Tippex thinner, spray deodorants or any other aerosol spray, or volatile substances onto the school site. Where such substances are used in practical subjects they are to be used under the supervision of teachers and/or technicians.
- **Medicines**: all prescription medicines should be handed in to the Medical Room and will be administered under supervision, and logged; any other medicines should not be brought into school.
- Any other substance deemed by the Governors or Headteacher to be detrimental to the health, safety or well-being of any member of the school community.

4.2 Through the general ethos of the school, staff will seek to persuade students in need of support to come forward. Parental concerns will also be dealt with sensitively.

4.3 All students in the Sixth Form College sign an entry declaration which supports the schools' approach and policy towards illegal and unauthorised substances

### 5. OUR RESPONSE

#### 5.1 Support

We will take a holistic approach to our assessment of and response to all drug related incidents. Every drug related situation will be treated individually and carefully assessed to ensure that appropriate and serious attention is given. The school will offer a range of support strategies for students who are involved in such incidents. These may include one or more of the following:

- Emergency medical treatment/referral
- Early warning monitoring
- In school programmes

- Behaviour contracts
- Pastoral support programmes
- Inter-agency involvement
- Referral to outside agencies (Options: Integrated Services Delivery Area input, Drugs & Alcohol Action team, Police through School Police Liaison officer, General Practitioner and Health Care Counselling)

## 5.2 Response

If staff hear of any concern or rumour concerning the use of illegal or unauthorised substances then this will be shared with parents and students. Staff have the legal right to take temporary possession of a substance suspected of being illegal or unauthorised. Staff can search lockers and bags if they have reasonable cause to believe illegal substances are there. Any illegal or unauthorised drugs found will be stored by the Headteacher or his nominated representative and handed over to the Police.

## 5.3 Sanctions

Where students fail to meet our expectations, parents will be informed and a range of sanctions imposed. We will keep a record of all drug-related situations. The sanctions could include the following, however in most cases breaches of this policy will be dealt with severely.

- Referral to tutor, Year Team Leader, Assistant /DeputyHead/Headteacher
- After School Detention
- Referral through the BAT phone system
- Fixed-term exclusion (with a commitment from parents & pupil at a return to school interview to access support from external agencies if deemed appropriate)
- Permanent exclusion will be imposed for dealing or sharing, inciting or encouraging others to bring substances on to the school site or a second offence of a drug related incident.
- Permanent exclusion will be imposed for anyone dealing or sharing at any time with any member of the Boarding Community whilst they are under the responsibility of the Boarding House.

## **Drugs Education & Drug Related Incidents Policy**

### **Boarding Addendum**

This addendum applies to Boarders at all times that they are under the responsibility of the Boarding House

#### **Banned & Illegal Substances**

Students may not possess, use or share any banned, illegal substances or any other substance deemed by the Governors or Headteacher to be detrimental to the health, safety or well-being of any member of the school community in Boarding at any time of the day or night, any day of the week or at weekends. The response to any infringement of this will be in line with Response and Sanctions detailed above and will apply to both the Boarding and Day School.

#### **Tobacco**

Students may not possess or use any tobacco products at any time. The Response and Sanctions detailed above will be applied at all times. Tobacco products and smoking-related products will be confiscated and returned to parents/carers at the end of terms. This also applies to Electronic Cigarettes.

#### **Alcohol**

Students may not possess or consume any alcohol nor food or drink items containing alcohol at any time, unless permission has been given by the Director of Boarding. Please refer to the document "Information for Boarders and Parents" and also to the "Additional Boarding Rules".

In all cases of drug, tobacco or alcohol related incidents, parents will be informed and details will be kept in the students' file, with a copy placed in the Serious Incident file.

Drug and Alcohol checks on students that have previously offended may be a condition of their return

This Policy complies with National Minimum Standards 12.1 and 12.2 in force from 1 September 2013.